

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUNICH 01533 240914Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-13 EB-07 TRSE-00 /089 W
-----241002Z 018537 /12

R 240840Z MAY 77
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8506
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUNICH 1533

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF, GW
SUBJECT: FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS ON EGYPT AND THE MIDDLE
EAST CONFLICT

1. INTRO AND SUMMARY. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION CHAIRMAN
FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS SHARED OVERALL IMPRESSIONS OF HIS RECENT
ONE WEEK VISIT TO EGYPT WITH FRG PRESS IN MUNICH MAY 23.
STRAUSS FORESEES NEITHER A FINAL SETTLEMENT NOR RENEWED
ARMED CONFLICT IN MIDDLE EAST IN 1977. HE CHARACTERIZED
PRESIDENT SADAT'S REACTION TO VICTORY OF BEGIN AND LIKUD
AS UNDRAMATIC. END SUMMARY.

2. SADAT ON BEGIN. STRAUSS TOLD PRESS THAT EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MUNICH 01533 240914Z

SADAT DID NOT REPEAT NOT REGARD VICTORY OF BEGIN AS A
"DRAMATIC" DEVELOPMENT. IN STRAUSS' VIEW, SADAT CONTINUES
TO BELIEVE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS OF MIDDLE EAST ARE SOLUBLE
BY NEGOTIATION. (STRAUSS MET WITH SADAT ON MAY 20.)

3. THREE SALIENT ASPECTS OF MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. STRAUSS
SEES MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AS CHARACTERIZED BY THREE MAJOR

ASPECTS, TWO OF WHICH HAVE EXISTED FOR SOME TIME AND THIRD OF WHICH HAS ARISEN ONLY RECENTLY. THE FIRST ASPECT CAN BE DESCRIBED AS "PEACE FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE." ALTHOUGH PAST ARAB-ISRAELI WARS WERE "DESERT WARS" RESULTING IN FEW CIVILIAN CASUALTIES LATER GENERATION WEAPONS WHICH WOULD BE USED IN ANY NEW WAR WOULD CAUSE WIDESPREAD DEVASTATION OF POPULATED AREAS. SECOND ASPECT IS THAT ALL STATES IN AREA FACE SERIOUS ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND SOCIETAL (SPECIALLY LATTER) PROBLEMS WHICH A NEW WAR WOULD ONLY MULTIPLY AND EXACERBATE. EXACERBATION OF THESE PROBLEMS COULD ONLY SERVE INTEREST OF ONE GREAT POWER, E. G. MOSCOW. THIRD AND NEW ASPECT IS THAT EGYPT HAS DECLARED ITSELF OPENLY AS AN AFRICAN POWER WHICH BEARS SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

4. NO FINAL SETTLEMENT IN 1977. ALTHOUGH HE FORESEES NO REPEAT NO NEW OUTBREAK OF WAR IN 1977, STRAUSS DOES NOT EXPECT FINAL SETTLEMENT THIS YEAR. HE CONSIDERS IT POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT THE "SWITCHES" WHICH DETERMINE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS IN ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE SET IN 1977. ECHOING MANY OTHER OBSERVERS, STRAUSS IDENTIFIED EVOLUTION OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS AS ELEMENT MOST CRUCIAL TO LONG-TERM SETTLEMENT.

5. COMMENT. STRAUSS DISPLAYED CONSIDERABLE RESTRAINT IN CONVEYING HIS IMPRESSIONS OF SADAT AND MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. HE REFRAINED FROM MAKING SUGGESTIONS OR EVEN DRAWING INFTIATIONS FOR FINAL MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT SHOULD BE PURSUED. WE GAINED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MUNICH 01533 240914Z

IMPRESSION THAT BY EMPHASIZING EGYPT'S BROADENED VIEW OF ITS INTERNATONAL RESPONSIBILITIES, STRAUSS WAS SUGGESTING THAT EGYPT LEADERS NOW SEE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM WITH NEW, LARGER SENSE OF PERSPECTIVE AND PROPORTION.BETTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES, PARTY LEADERS, VISITS, MEETING REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MUNICH01533
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770184-0860
Format: TEL
From: MUNICH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770524/aaaaaup.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 61b9568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2391791
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS ON EGYPT AND THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT
TAGS: PFOR, EG, XF, GE, (STRAUSS, FRANZ JOSEF)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/61b9568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009